

I understand why attempts to level regulatory playing field are fair, even though by doing so the inherent natural monopolies of the incumbents are effectively sustained.

However, I am confused by the proposal to place wireless last mile ISPs under the auspices of the Universal Service Fee, even if this is delivered using unlicensed technologies, such as those in the 2.4GHz band.

These unlicensed technologies permit anyone to offer the service; as well as commercial providers there are community programs (such as PDX wireless) which intend to deliver broad band access to whole communities, for no monthly fee. Participants merely set up their server, join in the network and together create an emergent broadband network. licensing rules, regulations and USF requirements will make such things impossible, even though such grass routes efforts are the way that broadband internet connectivity can be brought to a wide audience.

Please keep "unlicensed" bands and technologies out of the scope of any USF program, to enable such programs, and because, by their very nature, enforcement will be near-impossible.